

Student Eligibility Requirements

Federal and State Eligibility Requirements:

1. **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA):** A student must file a FAFSA to establish eligibility for federal, state and institutionally funded grant and loan programs. The State of Iowa has a filing deadline of July 1st in order to be considered for state funded financial aid.
2. **Regular student in an eligible program:** A regular student is enrolled for the purpose of obtaining a degree or certificate.
3. **Elementary or secondary enrollment:** A student who is concurrently enrolled in high school and at Simpson is not considered a “regular student,” nor is he/she eligible for financial aid.
4. **Academic qualifications:** Students must be accepted for admission and matriculated by the office of admission at Simpson College in order to receive financial aid.
5. **Satisfactory Academic Progress:** A student must attend classes on a regular basis and meet Simpson’s satisfactory academic progress standards as defined in this handbook.
6. **Citizenship:** A student must be a U.S. citizen or an eligible non-citizen to receive both state and federally funded financial aid. For any student who fails the social security match for citizenship or the Department of Homeland Security match for permanent residency on their FAFSA application, the financial aid office requires confirmation or documentation of status as specified by federal regulations.
7. **Social Security Administration:** If a student’s application fails the social security match on their FAFSA application, the financial aid office is required to resolve the discrepancy. Typically, such discrepancies can be resolved by submitting a copy of the student’s social security card to the office of financial aid.
8. **Selective Service Registration:** General registration requirements apply to persons assigned the sex of male at birth who are at least 18 years old and were born after December 31, 1959. Any student who is required to register but fails to do so is ineligible for federal student aid.
9. **Defaulted student loans and overpayments of federal student aid:** A student must certify that he/she is not in default on a federal student loan and does not owe an overpayment on a federal grant or loan.
10. **Conviction for possession or sale of illegal drugs:** A federal or state drug conviction can disqualify a student for financial aid funds. A student self-certifies on the FAFSA application that he/she has never been convicted of possessing or selling drugs for an offense that occurred while he/she was receiving federal student aid. A student who is unsure if the nature and date of a conviction is disqualifying him/her from receiving financial aid should contact the Department of Education at 1-800-433-3243 for clarification.
11. **Verification of FAFSA application data:** A student selected for verification must comply with the guidelines as outlined below. Students may be selected for verification by the U.S. Department of Education or Simpson College. The verification process is mandated by the U.S. Department of Education. Some students are selected for a specific reason and others are randomly selected. The process is designed to ensure that the data on the FAFSA correlates with the information reported on the federal income tax return and that all data submitted is accurate.

If the student is notified by the office of financial aid to complete the verification process, please note:

 - A. The student and parent/spouse are responsible for providing supporting data including:
 1. completed verification worksheet(s),
 2. copies of tax returns or tax return transcripts for both student and parent/spouse if the IRS data retrieval match was not used, and
 3. other required documentation as requested by the office of financial aid.
 - B. This data is urgent and must be provided **immediately**.
 - C. Failure to provide this data by the second week of enrollment can result in the loss of campus based federal funds (SEOG Grant & Federal Work-Study funds) to the student.
 - D. Financial aid will **not** be credited to the student’s account until this process is completed.